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N TREDUNCTED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/678,045 Confirmation No. : 6655

First Named Inventor : Hiroshi SHINRIKI Filed : October 3, 2003

TC/A.U. : 1762

Examiner : T. H. Meeks

Docket No. : 010986.52822US

Customer No. : 23911

Title : Method of and Apparatus for Processing Substrates

REPLY

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 4, 2005.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.